According to information from Common Cause and Citizens for Tax Justice, just 14 corporations alone would reap a $6.3 billion windfall from the retroactive repeal of the alternative minimum tax in the House-passed package. Enron, which has given more than $3.7 million in soft money from 1991 through 2000, will get an estimated $254 million refund under this bill. Chevron Texaco, which gave more that $3.6 million in soft money over the last 10 years, will get an estimated refund of $572 million. General Electric gave $1.3 million, and they'll get $671 million. And this list goes on. Billions upon billions of dollars being funneled back to big donors at a time when more and more Americans are out of work, lacking health care coverage and struggling to pay their bills.

The House package also gave a temporary tax break to multinational corporations on some profits from their foreign operations. As the Washington Post pointed out, ''it's hard to see how this measure, which would encourage firms to keep money outside the country, would do anything to stimulate the American economy.'' This measure rewards some of the biggest donors in the banking, investment and life insurance industries. Some of the biggest donors in these industries include Merrill Lynch, which has given more than $2.2 million in soft money over the last 10 years, and Citigroup, which has given more than $2.1 million during the last 10 years, according to Common Cause.

The House-passed package even included Medical Savings Accounts, which soft money donor Golden Rule Financial Corporation and other insurance interests have lobbied for for many years. Golden Rule gave just shy of $1.3 million in soft money in the last ten years.

The stimulus bill should have been an opportunity to stimulate the economy; instead it turned out to be a chance for special interests to add the provisions they've been pushing for all these years. Wealthy interests haven't hesitated to take this difficult period for the country and exploit it for their own gain. And if this version of the bill ever passes, they will reap an enormous financial windfall.

In the last few months, the Nation has endured a great deal, and we will continue to face enormous challenges. As a Congress, we must address the issues before us with the kind of integrity that these challenges will demand. But we can't meet those challenges when the legislative process is hobbled by the clout of special interests. The stimulus bill was a sobering example of a bill that went through that process, and fell far short of its goal.

The stimulus bill was a missed opportunity that the Nation may pay dearly for down the road. We've missed an opportunity, but we don't have to miss another one. I hope when Congress returns next year, we will rise to meet the next challenge before us: getting campaign finance reform to the President's desk. The Nation is closely watching our work here, more now than ever in the wake of September 11. And bills like the stimulus package would make any American wonder whether we are truly conducting the people's business on this floor. We must restore integrity to legislative process, and restore the people's faith in us and what we do.

I think we can start by voting against this bill, if it comes to us in a form like the House-passed bill. But we must do much more, we must abolish soft money and shut down the issue ad loophole, and it can't wait another year. Campaign finance reform should be one of the first orders of business when we return next year. The American people are looking to us for leadership, and I believe that this Senate can provide that leadership. We can show the American people that we have the courage and leadership they seek, and we can start by making campaign finance reform the law of the land.

## TRIBUTE TO KEVIN P. POWER, NASA FELLOW

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I take this opportunity to recognize and say farewell to an outstanding NASA Manager, Kevin P. Power, upon his departure from my staff. Mr. Power was selected as a Congressional Fellow to work in my office because of his knowledge of the aerospace industry, NASA programs, and the John C. Stennis Space Center in my home State of Mississippi. It is a privilege for me to recognize the many outstanding achievements he has provided for the U.S. Senate, NASA, and our great Nation.

During his NASA fellowship, Mr. Power worked on legislation affecting NASA and the aerospace industry. He worked hard to ensure that the NASA appropriations bill for fiscal year 2002 included legislative provisions that will support specific programs aimed at fostering the development of a robust U.S. space propulsion industry, which includes rocket engine testing at Stennis Space Center. Specifically, he helped ensure that NASA's rocket engine test facilities are ready to provide continued support for testing under NASA's Space Launch Initiative.

Mr. Power also worked to ensure that adherence to past legislative provisions affecting land remote sensing data buys are being met to continue the stimulation of a private sector remote sensing industry without competition from the U.S. Government.

Mr. Power graduated from the University of New Orleans, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering, prior to beginning his engineering career with the U.S. Navy in Annapolis, MD, as a civilian engineer working on submarine acoustics. He transitioned to an aerospace career as a contract engineer supporting Space Shuttle launches at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida and then joined NASA shortly after the Shuttle's return to flight following the Challenger disaster.

As a project engineer with NASA, he supported various propulsion development programs at Stennis Space Center, including the Air Force's New Launch System, NASA's Advanced Solid Rocket Motor, the NASA/Air Force National Aerospace Plane, and the NASA X–33 Aerospike Engine. During this time he attended Florida Tech, where he received a Master of Science in Management degree and eventually transitioned to a job with more responsibilities as a NASA project manager for Boeing's Evolved Expendable Launch Vehicle and NASA's Rocket Based Combined Cycle test facility.

Mr. President, Mr. Power is married to the former Susan Foreman of Crowley, LA. They have two children, a 7-year-old-son Brandon and a 5-year-old daughter Madison, and are expecting their third child next year in March. Mr. Power will return to NASA Stennis Space Center to continue his endeavors in the area of rocket propulsion testing. I will truly miss his experience and assistance he has provided to me, and I wish him all the very best as he helps NASA advance its efforts in the areas of space propulsion and remote sensing in the 21st century.

## RECLASSIFICATION OF SCRANTON-WILKES BARRE-HAZLETON, WILLIAMSPORT, AND SHARON METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS

Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I wish to thank the senior Senator from Pennsylvania for working with me on this very important issue of Medicare provider payment policy, particularly in light of the unique financial pressures being faced by the hospitals in Scranton-Wilkes Barre, Williamsport, and Sharon metropolitan statistical areas, MSAs, which emanate in part from some glaring disparities in Medicare's payment formulas.

As I travel around the Commonwealth, many health care leaders have conveyed to me their continued concerns about the impact of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, BBA, on their health care delivery operations. Our Pennsylvania constituents, who represent rural, urban and community hospitals and systems, have shared with us detailed information about the financially strained health care delivery environment under the BBA.

We are all aware of the administrative and financial challenges that health care providers all across the country face, particularly in their service to our Nation's elderly population. But the environment in which the hospitals in these three areas of Pennsylvania are seeking to deliver quality health care to their respective communities is even more challenging given that their MSAs contain areas or border on areas from which higher compensated providers, with similar health care delivery costs, draw their patients, and more importantly, their